



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 79th Field Artillery
434th Field Artillery Brigade
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

ATSF-KGD

19 November 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Family and Friends of D/1-79 FA Soldiers

SUBJECT: Graduation Letter

Dear Parents, Family Members, and Friends:

We are in the 6th week of basic Training. We are fast approaching Family Day and Graduation. My name is CPT Lawrence I am the Battery Commander for Delta 1/79th Field Artillery, I am sending you this letter to give you the opportunity to plan and support your Soldier. Your Soldiers are all performing well and seeing their motivation makes training them my pleasure. As graduation moves close we have included some items that make it easier to plan for and attend the family day presentation on 13 December 2012 and the graduation ceremony on 14 December 2012.

Here are the timelines for Family Day and Graduation:

Family Day: 13 December 2012

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Family members arrive to Family Day Activities.
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Family Day Demonstration
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Battery Commander in brief to family and friends (welcome And pass guidelines)
11:00 a.m. – 8:45 p.m.	Pass privileges
8:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Accountability Formation

Graduation Day: 14 December 2012

09:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Doors open/ Families seated in Sheridan Theater
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Graduation at Sheridan Theater
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Soldiers travel back to Battery area by bus
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Pass Briefing/ sign out on pass
12:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.	Pass privileges
8:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Accountability formation in battery area

*****NOTE:** The Soldiers who will not graduate will have pass privileges in the Battery area only after all duty details have been completed. To avoid confusion and congestion, we ask that there are no visitors during the duty day prior to Family Day. **Please look for and follow the big “YELLOW”**

I will send out bi-weekly digital postings and photographs on the Delta Battery Facebook account <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/1-79/1-79d.html> that describes some of the training your Soldiers conduct here. Important Family Day and Graduation Day information will be sent out both on Facebook and letter via U.S Mail on the upcoming graduation events.

You can also find information on Ft. Sill and Lawton area at the chamber of commerce website: <http://www.latonfortsillchamber.com/index.php?pr=Lodging> . There is also great information on the 434th FA BDE website at: <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/index.htm> .

Please do not hesitate to contact me with emergencies regarding your Soldier. My telephone number is (580)-442-1321/1322 and my e-mail address is anthony.w.lawrence.mil@mail.mil. I look forward to meeting you and hope you are able to attend your Soldier's graduation. Thank you for the support of your Soldier!

On behalf of the Drill Sergeants, 1SG and myself, I would like to wish your family Happy Holidays and a safe New Year. We know that you are eagerly awaiting the return of your Soldier for Holiday Block leave. This leave privilege is an important opportunity for your Soldier to relax and be with their family and friends. We ask that you assist us with ensuring your Soldier remains safe while on leave and returns to the unit on time ready to train.

Holiday Block leave starts at 6:00 a.m. on December 19, 2012, and ends January 2, 2013. It is mandatory that your Soldier return no later than 8:00 p.m. January 2, 2013 in order to continue training on time. Your Soldier has a return ticket and it is his/her responsibility to make it back on time. If your Soldier fails to return, he/she will be listed as absent without leave (AWOL). This is a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Which carries consequences that will follow them for the rest of their military career and life.

In the event of a travel related situation that precludes your Soldier from returning as scheduled such as weather delays or cancelled flight, please contact the Battalion Staff Duty at (580) 442-6549. You should also contact the Battery First Sergeant or me at (580) 619-6394/ (580) 402-2602 (also, each Soldier will have a contact card with Brigade/Battalion/Battery Phone numbers for emergency use). Should an emergency arise such as a death in the immediate family, you should notify us through your local American Red Cross office who will in turn contact me.

If your Soldier requires emergency medical care, he/she should go to the closest treatment facility with their identification card. For any routine type medical issues your Soldier must call the TRICARE number within their specific region.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail First Sergeant Brickhouse at terry.r.brickhouse.mil@mail.mil or myself anthony.w.lawrence.mil@mail.mil or call my office at (580) 442-1321. **This is a government phone number and cannot receive collect calls.** During Holiday Block leave, the Battery will shut down if you need to contact us please use the numbers listed on your soldiers contact card. If you cannot reach any Battery personnel via phone, you may e-mail me in the event of an emergency. Training will begin on January 2nd, and will continue until your Soldier has met all Initial Entry training graduation requirements.

The support of family and friends is vital to the success of all Soldiers. Encourage your Soldier to continue training hard in order to achieve the goals they set prior to entering the Army. Have a safe Holiday Season; we look forward to continuing training with your Soldier upon their return.



ANTHONY W. LAWRENCE
CPT, FA
Commanding